

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Previously Presented) A hinge for connecting a hood to a vehicle body, having at least one hinge carrier arranged on the vehicle body, at least one hinge arm arranged on the hood and at least one connecting part for the pivotable connection of the hinge arm to the hinge carrier, wherein the hinge is configured so that the connection of the hinge arm to the hinge carrier is released in the event of an accident by removal and/or destruction of the connecting part due to forces acting in a direction of a pivot axis of the hinge.
3. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 2, wherein the connecting part is designed as an explosive bolt or shear bolt.
4. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 2, wherein the connecting part is guided in at least one socket on the hinge arm and in at least one socket on the hinge carrier and, in the event of an accident, is removed from at least one socket.
5. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 4, wherein the connecting part is designed as a bolt which is pulled out of at least one of the sockets.
6. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 4, wherein at least one actuating device is provided for actuating the connecting part in the event of an accident.
7. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 6, wherein the actuating device comprises a pyrotechnic element.
8. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 6, wherein the actuating device is an inflatable airbag and/or a gas-conducting element.

9. (Currently Amended) The hinge as claimed in claim 8, wherein the airbag and/or the gas-conducting element acts on the connecting part via at [[a]] least one transmission element.

10. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transmission element is designed as a lever.

11. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 9, wherein on filling with gas, the airbag and/or the gas-conducting element, owing to its expansion, exerts a push or a pull on the connecting part and/or the transmission element.

12. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 2, wherein the hinge carrier has at least one socket which corresponds with the connecting part and is configured to release the connecting part in the event of an accident.

13. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 12, wherein the hinge carrier has at least one moveable hinge carrier part which, in the event of an accident, is moved in relation to at least one fixed hinge carrier part in such a manner that the connecting part accommodated therein comes free.

14. (Currently Amended) The hinge as claimed in claim 2, wherein the hinge arm has a deformation region for a the specific deformation of the hinge arm in the event of an accident.

15. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 14, wherein the connecting part is disengaged from the hinge carrier by deformation of the hinge arm.

16. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one limiting device is arranged for limiting the relative movement between the hinge carrier and hinge arm.

17. (Previously Presented) The hinge as claimed in claim 16, wherein the limiting device is a rebound strap and/or a lever guided in a coulisse.

18. (Currently Amended) An airbag for opening a hood connected by a hinge to a vehicle body, ~~especially an engine hood~~, wherein the airbag is configured to release the hood

from the vehicle body using forces generated by the airbag that act in a direction of a pivot axis of the hinge when the airbag is deployed in a ~~the~~ region of the hinge.

19. (Previously Presented) The airbag as claimed in claim 18, wherein airbag regions are arranged directly on the hinge.

20. (Previously Presented) The airbag as claimed in claim 19, wherein the airbag, when deployed, is first of all deployed in the regions arranged on the hinge.

21. (Currently Amended) The airbag as claimed in claim 19, wherein a gas-conducting system, ~~in particular a gas lance~~, is arranged in the interior of the airbag, said lance conducting the gas used for the deployment into the airbag regions arranged on the hinge.